

The Monocacy MONOCLE

Keeping An Eye On Local News

A Biweekly Newspaper

September 14, 2007

Volume IV, Number 11.



The Historic Medley District put on their annual art show. See Family Album on Page 2.



It may be the late summer, but there are plenty of flowers left to enjoy. See the Garden on Page 5.



PHS soccer coach Christos Nicholas and Christian Hellwig are part of Poolesville High School fall sports. See Youth Sports on page 18 for more.



All aboard to a great Poolesville Day. See page 14.

Commissioners Approve Deed Change

The Poolesville Commissioners voted 4-1 in favor of deeding a piece of town property to the state and county to facilitate the planned changes regarding the Elgin Road spur at the intersection of Route 109 and Elgin Road adjacent to the Elijah United Methodist Church. Commissioner Klobukowski was the sole dissenting vote.

At the same time, the commissioners requested that the planning board, whose chairman, George Coakley, was present at the meeting, agree to further consider the safety issues brought forward by Kim Stypeck and a revision to the plan proposed by Bob Bachman and Cal Sneed.

The vote to approve moving forward was encouraged by Commission president, Eddie Kulhman, on the basis that no matter whether they go forward as planned or choose to make changes, the process of deeding the property to the state would still be required. Commissioner Link Hoewing and Tom Yeatts voiced support for the resolution on condition that the concerns raised by citizens at the meeting would receive a hearing by the planning board.

The issue revolves around changes in traffic patterns and infrastructure through a proposed plan by Kettler Forlines to turn the Elgin Road



An alternate proposal for a traffic circle at the Elgin Road spur and Route 109.



The Brightwell Crossing plan for changes at the Elgin Road spur and Route 109.

spur into a restricted street. The plan includes extensive alterations in the current entrance from Route 109. The Elgin Road spur would no longer be a through street for traffic leaving Jerusalem Road heading to Poolesville. The proposal would incorporate a turn lane on Route 109 just before the

Elgin Road spur so that traffic heading to the park area of the development would not block ongoing traffic heading north on Route 109. It would also include modification of the immediate drop in the roadway that now exists

-Continued on Page 11.

A Voice of Music

By Dominique Agnew

I've had the privilege of seeing her perform only three times, but each performance was memorable. The first time, three years ago, she won the Poolesville High School Talent Competition with a resounding rendition of "Praeludium and Allegro" by Fritz Kreisler. Also, that year, she performed with violinist, Sandy Cameron, at the benefit concert at PHS in a duet of Pachelbel's "Canon in D." Then two years later, she graced the home of Tom and Debbie Kettler for the very special Cameron Concert

Sponsor reception where she performed Béla Bartók's "Rumanian Folk Dances"—impressive, to say the least. She plays with authority and conviction while still beautifully expressing the emotions with a broad range of color and vitality—and before each performance, she says a prayer. "I pray that it's not about me, that it's about the audience...that the music touches the people."

Allie Taylor, a 2007 graduate of Poolesville High School and the Global Ecology Program, cannot remember when she did not play the



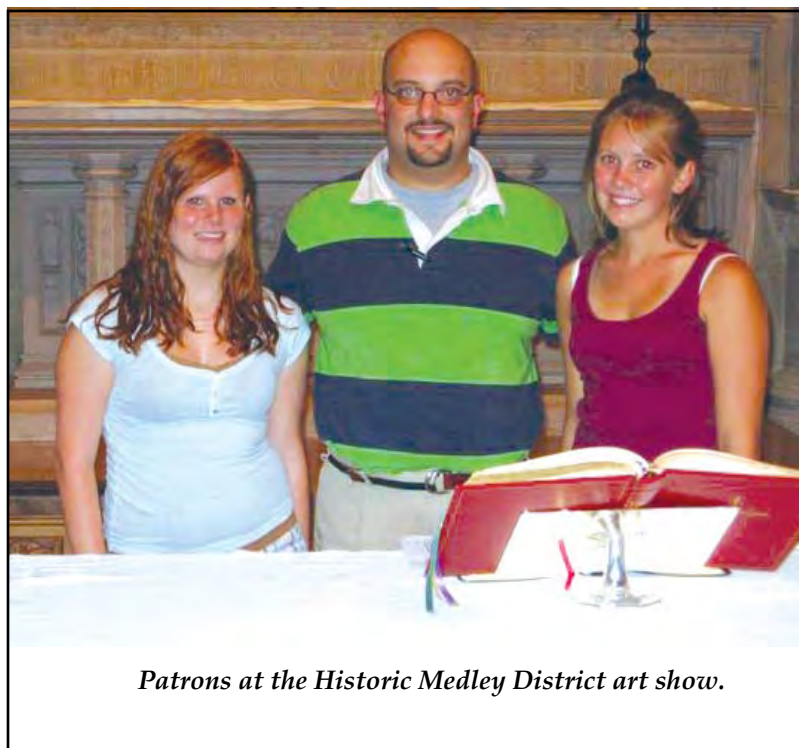
Allie Taylor

-Continued on Page 11.


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Hannah Dowdy and Abigail Tjornehoj were commissioned as members of the Committee on Youth for the Episcopal Diocese of Washington on August 25 at the National Cathedral by Paul Canady, the Diocese's Deputy for Youth Ministry.



Patrons at the Historic Medley District art show.



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Local History

Private Swain's Adventure

By Jack Toomey

On February 15, 1898, the United States Battleship Maine exploded and sank in the harbor at Havana, Cuba. Two hundred and sixty-six American soldiers were killed. American citizens were enraged and some demanded a war with Spain which controlled Cuba at the time. President William McKinley called for volunteers to join the army and navy, and thousands of young men heard the call of their president and joined units in their states. One of the units that was mustered into duty was the First Maryland Volunteer Infantry which consisted of

over a thousand officers and men.

In Brunswick, Maryland, a young man named T. Craft Swain was employed at the C.H. Feete furniture factory. He had heard about the call for volunteers and thought that it would be interesting to fight in a war. Most of his relatives were employed by the railroad, but he enlisted in the First Maryland Volunteers. He was shipped to Camp Wilmer at Pimlico, Maryland for basic training. In May, 1898, the troops were shipped to Fort Monroe, Virginia and were told to prepare for an invasion of Puerto Rico. At Camp Monroe, they trained, they marched, practiced with their rifles, and trained some more. In the meantime, the Spanish-American War was raging in the Caribbean, and the First Maryland sat on their hands at Camp Monroe. Swain was getting tired of the monotony of training and eating hard tack for breakfast, lunch, and dinner.

Swain, his hopes of gallantry

and dreams of fighting in a real war dashed, decided that he was through with the army and left camp. He made his way to Richmond, may have hopped a freight train bound for Washington, and ended up in Montgomery County. Since he was still in uniform, people greeted him along the way, fed him, and gave him a place to sleep as he trudged along the dusty roads on the way to Brunswick. Somewhere between Boyds and Barnesville, Swain found the railroad tracks. He knew that if he walked along the tracks, they would eventually lead to Brunswick and his home. About noon on August 5, he was walking on the tracks just past Barnesville when he became fatigued and sat down on the tracks and fell asleep. It just happened that about that time the fast express train from Chicago was approaching. For some reason, the roaring sounds of the approaching train did not awaken Swain, and, miraculously, he was swept aside by the cowcatcher of the train and deposited in a ditch. In those days, the locomotives of trains were equipped with a protruding device at track level to scoop cows off of the tracks so they would not wreck the train. The engineer and fireman, certain that they had killed the man sitting on the railroad tracks, stopped

the train, and, to their amazement, found Swain, shaken but alive, sitting in the ditch. Since he had bruises and seemed disoriented, they threw him into the baggage car of the train and continued on to Washington where railroad officials took him to Providence Hospital. Doctors could find no broken bones or other serious injuries, and Swain became a minor celebrity about town. While Swain was in the hospital, an armistice was signed, and the Spanish-American War ended. Within days Swain was released and somehow made his way home to Brunswick. The military eventually caught up with him, and he was court-martialed and found guilty of desertion.

Craft Swain could not stay away from the railroad tracks. By 1900, he had obtained employment with the railroad. In October 1900, Swain was working on the tracks in Cumberland, Maryland. He was sent to a section of the tracks to work on a project. Again, for some reason, he was too close to a moving train and was struck and killed. He was brought back to Brunswick where he was buried.



Somewhere along this stretch of railroad tracks Private Swain was struck by the train.

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Editorial

Reflections on a Hot Day in the Old Town

By Rande Davis

The verdict on the 2007 Poolesville Day festival is in, and it has been proclaimed a resounding success. The one universal downer was the heat. Should the Poolesville Day Committee consider moving it to the end of September or October? The committee wants to know. If you want to weigh in on this consideration, contact one of the members of the committee you know or visit www.poolesvilleday.com.

Last fall, when Jake Perkins, due to health reasons, questioned whether or not he could continue as chairman, many people came forward to help. As a member of that committee, I can attest to the remarkable congeniality, focus, and dedication of the group. I will not pretend to speak for the committee on everything, but on the degree of respect by the members for the leadership of the co-chairpersons,

Brice Halbrook and Bridget Burke, there would be no disagreement. Simply put: they were remarkable, professional, and a pleasure to work with. Like stars in a play, they deserve the curtain call and the standing ovation, and as cast members in the play, the committee members join in that applause.

The 2007 Poolesville Day Committee consisted of: co-chairs, Brice Halbrook and Bridget Burke, Phymon Lyles, Michael Shapiro (treasurer), Theresa Yost (secretary), Brian Sheron (bands), Richard and Diane Rose, Michele Halbrook, Ray Hoewing, Gail and Tom Lee, Dawn Albert, Bill Poole, Jim Brown, Gabi Jacob, Laura Yeatts, Carol Dandis, Cal Sneed, Valaree Dickerson, Lil Winning, and Rande Davis.

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Keeping An Eye On Local News

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Garden

Top Fall Bloomers for the Perennial Garden

By Maureen O'Connell

It is the middle of September, and how does your garden look? Many gardeners focus on plants that will bloom in the spring and the summer, but there is no reason for your garden to shut down during the fall. The trick to designing an attractive perennial garden is making sure you have something wonderful in bloom all the time. Each season has its stars, and Mother Nature has a good eye for color. Fall bloomers seem to know when it is time to change the colors of the garden's wardrobe. Out go the pastel tones and in come the jewel tones of the season—deep purple, rust, scarlet, and gold.

Now is the ideal time to take a good look at your garden and see where it can use some help. If most of your flowering plants flourish in the spring and summer, there will be some bare spots now which could grab a little color from fall blooming plants. Are there unplanted areas of your yard that need a little pizzazz? Plan a new garden, which will give several seasons of interest.

Last week, I walked around my gardens with a notebook and made a list of plants that were doing well and still in bloom. As I mentioned in my last column, 2007 has been a bizarre year for the garden. Despite the heat, drought, and my extended absences, my garden has never looked better for this time of the year. The roses, daisies, impatiens, dianthus, lantanas, delphiniums, coreopsis, and salvia are glorious in their third growth spurt. I believe I owe this to the drastic haircut I gave them all in the beginning of August. Summer blooming plants expend a lot of their energy in June and July, so by August, they can look quite tired. I cut back these plants almost by half, gave them their last dose of fertilizer, and watered them well. Now the plants have set new buds and are ready for their last blooming period.

Let me now return to my original train of thought—flowers for a fall garden. For me, sedum is the quintessential fall blooming plant. Some might say that honor belongs to the chrysanthemum, but it has become so common that it loses its specialty. Sedum comes as close to perfection as

any plant can. It looks good all year, requires minimal maintenance, and is disease- and pest-resistant. Sedum belongs to a large genus of fleshy-leaved plants, which prefer a well-drained soil with a pH close to neutral (7.0). It can thrive with only a modest level of nutrients. I have found that it does best in poor soil. For years, 'Autumn Joy' was the star performer of this genus. This year, 'Autumn Fire' was introduced, and it supposedly shows a significant improvement on the old favorite 'Autumn Joy.' This new variety has a slower, stretched-out transition of its bloom from pale rose pink to bright red to bronzier tones. I am still very pleased with my old favorite, so I have not yet tried its fiery new cousin.

This has been a good year for *Rudbeckia*, a long-lived strain of one of North America's native species. Commonly known as the black-eyed Susan, it is the state flower of Maryland. This genus runs the gamut from perennials to biennials to annuals. They all have a long blooming season, lasting well into the first frost. For my tastes, *Rudbeckia fulgida sullivantii* 'Goldstrum,' with three- to four-inch flowers set off by its bright gold with bronze-black central cone, is the showiest and most dazzling strain of this genus. They are easy to grow, long lasting, and will provide your garden with a bounty of late summer color.

Physostegia might sound like a disease, but it is a flowering plant that doesn't receive its due in the garden. The variety *Physostegia virginiana* 'Vivid' has lance-shaped foliage with abundant eight- to twelve-inch panicles of large, pale violet, snap-dragon-like flowers. It fends off hot, humid weather to put on quite a show towards the end of August up until the first frost. Its only drawback is that it can become quite invasive and smother its neighbors. Plant him in a spot where he can spread his wings.

Hostas are widely recognized for their artistic beauty and the rich architecture of their foliage. But in late August and September, their fragrant flowers take over the show. It is a nice surprise to see them appearing, as many other flowering plants are fading. Here again, despite the heat and drought, my hostas and their flowers never looked better. Not all hosta



Hostas in full bloom.

flowers are created equal; some are small and nondescript, while others dominate with large, fragrant blooms on tall, slender scapes. In my shade

garden, I have many different varieties of hosta. I think the following ones do well in our area and provide an impressive flower display. The mythical Greek and Roman ladies, 'Aphrodite' and 'Venus,' take first prize in the variety category. 'Venus' wears glossy, green foliage, topped off with her chief feature—fragrant, white, fully open double five-inch-long flowers, which open in the evening. Some horticulturists believe that 'Aphrodite' is the best, truly double-flowered hosta available today. Like 'Venus,' she has large, pure-white intensely fragrant flowers that open in late summer and early fall on two-foot stems.

Last year, I introduced some toads to my shade gardens—tricyrtis, the splendid Toad Lily. There are also some real life toads lurking about in the shadows. 'Imperial Banner' is a variety two feet high, with long, curly, rippled leaves of creamy-white with dark green edges and ribbons. It blooms in early September with orchid-like white blooms spotted with lavender and purple. 'Taipei Silk' is another beautiful variety, with orchid-like blossoms of purple, highlighted with lilac and white. Plant some toads

—Continued on Page 26.

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The Pulse

Fall Season Continues with 54th Lord's Acre Festival

By Ray Hoewing

It's one of those events that people in the community look forward to each year, ranking right up there with Poolesville Day, Relay for Life, Community Fireworks, and the St. Peter's Rummage sale. Planners for this year's Lord's Acre Festival scheduled from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. assure that this year's iteration will not disappoint.

The festive day has greatly evolved since the first modest event scheduled in 1953, the selling of garden produce grown on the acreage owned by Memorial Methodist—hence the name retained over the years, "Lord's Acre." The pastor at the time, Raymus F. Hillard, was looking for a way to raise funds for badly-needed repairs on both the sanctuary and parsonage. No historical record exists as to how much money was given by patrons who purchased produce that day, but it certainly was

successful enough that the congregation ramped up again the following year for a repeat." And so it has gone each year down to the present.

The name for the event has long since become obsolete, but not to worry, just as at the first event, fresh garden produce will be on sale. The difference is that it will come from local orchards not the church lot. Of course there is a lot more to the modern Lord's Acre than the sale of produce.

There will be a silent auction, the Attic Treasures rummage sale (household goods, furniture, toys), games for kids, and much, much more. A large selection of gently-used books, DVDs, and cassettes will also be offered. This year's scheduled entertainment includes local musician Doug Bell and Memorial's own Memorial Minstrels. Items to be auctioned off in the silent auction include craft items and vacation opportunities. Many who annually patronize the Lord's Acre look forward especially to buying the tasty homemade "Memorial apple butter" (and freshly made—as of September 11). Satisfy your sweet tooth with

-Continued on Page 21.

Things to Do

September 15

Blessing of Animals

Poplar Spring Farm
Noon

Violinist, Sandy Cameron

In Concert with National Philharmonic
Strathmore Hall
8:00 p.m.

September 16

Music in the Park

Whalen Commons – Poolesville
Poolesville Band Project
7:00 p.m.

Violinist, Sandy Cameron

In Concert with National Philharmonic
Strathmore Hall
3:00 p.m.

Celebrate Gaithersburg

Town Street Festival
Noon to 5:00 p.m.

September 20

PACC Pork and Chicken Roast Dinner

White's Ferry Pavilion, \$25.00 6:00 p.m.

The War

Ken Burns documentary
Weinberg Center for the Arts
7:30

September 21

Annual Monocacy Lions

Golf Tournament
Lunch: 11:00
Tee-off: noon
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September 22

Lord's Acre Fall Festival

Memorial United Methodist Church
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Saturday Night in the Country

Izaak Walton League
5:00 p.m.

September 30

Music in the Park

Whalen Commons – Poolesville
Drew Simms
7:00 p.m.

Varsity Sports Home Games

Poolesville High School

Football: September 20, 6:30 p.m.,
Boonsboro

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Football: October 5, 6:30 p.m.,
Clarksburg

Field Hockey: September 25, 7:00 p.m.
– B-CC

Field Hockey: September 27, 7:00 p.m.
– Damascus

Clarksburg High School

Football: September 20, 6:30 p.m.
– Northwood

Field Hockey: September 24 3:30 p.m.
– Quince Orchard

Field Hockey: October 1, 7:00 p.m.
– Gaithersburg

Field Hockey: October 3, 7:00 p.m.
– Wootton

Tuscarora High School

Football: September 20, 7:30 p.m.
– Dominion

Football: October 5, 7:00 p.m.
– Thomas Johnson

Field Hockey: September 20, 4:00 p.m.
– Catocin

Field Hockey: September 25, 7:00 p.m.
– Winters Mill

Field Hockey: September 27, 4:00 p.m.
– Linganore

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Local News

Recap on Poolesville Town Government Meeting

Decision on Temporary Signs Pushed Back Again

The Poolesville Town Commissioners postponed a final vote on a proposed sign ordinance change that would allow businesses in the town to request a weekend permit to use temporary signs for promotional purposes. The commissioners asked town attorney, Alan Wright, to better incorporate language that would specify more clearly the authority of the town to remove signs not complying with the ordinance and penalties should a business fail to adhere to the restrictions placed on the use of temporary signs.

Town Manager Presents Close Out Report on FY07 Budget

Town manager, Wade Yost, presented the annual budgetary closeout report to the town commissioners. The report compares actual final revenue and expenditure information for FY07 as compared to the proposed estimated FY07 budget a year ago. The General Fund closeout revenue for the year was \$2,762,768.00 or sixteen percent greater than the budget estimate. The expenditures of \$2,482,941.00 proved to be 4.8 percent larger than anticipated but still leaving a surplus of \$279,827.00.

Some of the areas in the General Fund that proved to have the largest degree of increased revenue to the town were revenue sharing, income tax, highway funds, interest income, and rental revenue for wireless antennas. Actual expenditures for general engineering and engineering development were two areas of greatest increase over budget. Costs relating

to voting machines and supplies were sixty-three percent higher due to holding an unanticipated election. The item that had the largest increase at closeout versus the budget estimate was for an increased grant to the Water and Wastewater Fund, which was due to elevated electricity rates levied on all non-residential users.

The net unrestricted fund reserves (think something like a saving account or cash emergency fund) was \$1,281,723 and based on hold a reserve equal to the operation and maintenance expenses of the town for a four month period for both the General Fund and the Waste and Wastewater. The town has also held a total of \$600,000 through FY06 and FY07 for a treatment system for wells #7, #9, and #10 should the MDE's final evaluation of the level of alpha emitters require the town to take action. After two years of pending analysis, it now appears that the town will be reassured by the state that it does not have an alpha emitter problem at which point the \$600,000 earmarked in the event treatment had proved necessary will then be released back to the taxpayers. A proposal floated by Town Commission president Eddie Kuhlman would be to return the money as a rebate check to the businesses and the homeowners of the town.

Town Approves Agreement on New Well

By a unanimous vote, the town approved agreement to allow Kettler Forlines to bring their new well on-line with the understanding that Kettler Forlines assumes responsibility should the well cause problems on other private wells in the area. Should a problem develop with other private wells within three years of bringing the development's well on-line, Kettler agrees to pay the cost of tying town water to their property or digging a new well for the town.



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Offered at \$415,000



Poolesville - Summerhill - Lovely, like new townhome w/ 3 BRs & 2.5 BAs. Main lvl entry foyer, LR w/ FP, dining area, kitchen w/ maple cabinets, tile flr., newer appliances & closet w/ stackable washer & dryer. Upper lvl MBR w/ full BA, 2 more BRs, hallway BA. Amenities include new carpet, fresh paint, updated kitchen & BAs, new windows throughout. Great location w/in minutes of schools, parks, community pool & shopping facilities. MLS#MC6410033.

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Ten Tips for Reducing Your Horse's West Nile Risk

By Dr. Peter Eeg, DVM

Since first being recognized in the United States in 1999, West Nile virus (WNV) has posed

a serious threat to horses and humans alike. In the equine population, the virus is transmitted when a mosquito takes a blood meal from a bird infected with WNV, then feeds on a horse. While many horses exposed to WNV experience no signs of illness, the virus can cause inflammation of the brain and spinal cord. Clinical signs include fever, depression, incoordination, limb weakness, muscle twitching (often involving the muzzle and/or eyelids), and/or recumbency. In some cases, especially in older horses, WNV can be fatal.

As a horse owner, prevention is the key to reducing your horse's risk of contracting WNV. Follow these guidelines to help protect your horse against infection with WNV:

1. Vaccinate your horse against the disease. In February 2003, a vaccine was licensed by the United States Department of Agriculture's Center for Veterinary Biologics for use in healthy horses as an aid in the prevention of the disease. Following the primary series (two vaccinations given three to four weeks apart), horses in this area should be re-vaccinated once a year. Plan to vaccinate during the early- to mid-summer months as in this area the disease typically occurs between August and October. Foals can receive their initial series at six months of age. More frequent vaccination (two to four times per year) is recommended for horses traveling to Florida, Georgia, and/or the Eastern Shore where there is a heavy mosquito population.

2. Eliminate potential mosquito breeding sites. Dispose of old receptacles, tires, and containers and eliminate areas of standing water.

3. Thoroughly clean livestock watering troughs at least monthly.

4. Use larvicides to control mosquito populations when it is not possible to eliminate particular breeding sites. Such action should only be taken, however, in consul-

ation with your local mosquito control authority.

5. Keep your horse indoors during the peak mosquito activity periods of dusk to dawn.

6. Screen stalls if possible or at least install fans over your horse to help deter mosquitoes.

7. Avoid turning on lights inside the stable during the evening or overnight.

8. Using insect repellants on your horse that are designed to repel mosquitoes can help reduce the chance of being bitten.

9. Remove any birds, including chickens, located in or close to a stable.

10. Don't forget to protect yourself as well. When outdoors in the evening, wear clothing that covers your skin and apply plenty of mosquito repellent.

For more information about the virus, ask your equine veterinarian for the "West Nile Virus" brochure, produced by the AAEP in conjunction with Bayer Animal Health, an AAEP Educational Partner. Additional information about WNV can be found on the AAEP's horse-health Web site, www.myHorseMatters.com.

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Book Corner

A Thousand Splendid Suns

By Khaled Hosseini
Riverhead Books. 367 pp. \$25.95

The Glass Castle

By Jeannette Walls
Scribner. 288 pp. \$25.00

A Long Way Gone

By Ishmael Beah
Farrar, Straus and Giroux.
240 pp. \$22.00

Last month, I read three exceptional books that I strongly recommend. Two were published this year, and the other in 2005. These books are not beach reads or airplane books. They speak of serious, haunting subjects that puncture our cozy, privileged, comfortable lives. Each book is different; each one takes place in opposite parts of the globe. But, they all have a common thread running through them that binds them in an unforgettable way. Hosseini's book is a novel, which is based on real life

issues and conditions in present-day Afghanistan, and the other two are memoirs.

Khaled Hosseini's powerful first novel, *The Kite Runner*, is an intimate tale of family and friendship, betrayal and salvation. It is set against the events of Afghanistan's last thirty years, from the Soviet invasion, to the reign of the Taliban, and to post-Taliban rebuilding. Woven into this history is the tale of two generations brought together by the tragedies of war. Hosseini's second novel, *A Thousand Splendid Suns*, is equally powerful; at times it is raw, and it is excruciating to read. But, it is beautifully written. Every day, we read in the newspapers or hear on the news broadcasts about the atrocities of the war that is still being waged in Afghanistan. We also read about the plight of this country's women. Times have not changed much for them. Their place and treatment in their society and culture have not changed much with the change of government. As we hear about them, they appear very distant from us. We turn the page or turn off the television or computer. This book vividly and shockingly tells the story of three Afghani women of three generations who suffer unforget-

table treatment in a male-dominated society, where women are treated like chattel. Despite all this, they maintain their dignity and hope for themselves and their children.

While on vacation last month, I was browsing in one of my favorite bookstores, and I came upon an author and book I was not familiar with, *The Glass Castle* by Jeannette Walls. *Time Magazine* called it "extraordinary." *Entertainment Weekly* called it "...nothing short of spectacular." It has been on *The New York Times* bestseller list for over a year. Permit me to digress for a moment to make a point. In college, I majored in French and minored in Creative Writing. One professor required that we keep a Common Place Book. For the year, you were supposed to make an entry into your book of—as the name implies—commonplace events. Well, sometimes writing about "nothing" is the hardest thing to do. It takes a lot of talent to take the list of your everyday tasks and write it in such a way that some unknown reader will find it interesting. Jeannette Walls has an extraordinary talent for telling a story, especially one about her own life and family. It is hard to believe

that she could write so beautifully and calmly about one of the most chaotic and heartbreaking childhoods ever put into print. While reading the first couple of chapters, I had to remind myself that I was reading a memoir, not a piece of fiction. Jeannette, her two sisters, and brother lived in a deeply dysfunctional, but at the same time, loving and vibrant family. When sober, Jeannette's father was brilliant, charismatic, and loving, but when he was drunk, which was often, he was cruel, destructive, and dishonest to both his wife and his children. Her mother was a sixties "flower child" who resented and ignored the idea of domesticity and the responsibility of raising four children. To their credit—or more to their sheer sense of survival—the Walls children learned to take care of themselves. In this memoir of resilience and redemption, we look into a family that by most standards could not survive. All the children went beyond this and created decent and noteworthy lives for themselves. Today, Jeannette is a noted author living in New York and Virginia with her husband, writer John Taylor.

-Continued on Page 23

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Big Board

The "Not Just for Parents" Sports Extravaganza

High school fall sports are just now hitting the field. Cheerleaders will be cheering, and parents of players and students will be in the bleachers. The hot dogs will be hot and soda will be cold, but, through it all, there is something missing. That something could be you. Okay, Bunkie, so you think you are a sports fan. You love the roar of crowd, the thrill of victory and agony of defeat. You remember the days when—all in front of your TV. Now you too can be part of the happenings by going to a school home game. The *Monocle* will show the varsity home games for football and field hockey for Clarksburg, Poolesville, and Tuscarora High Schools in our Things to Do section. Of course, there are more sports but not more space in the paper, so you may just have to check the schools' websites for other sports that interest you more.

Blessing of Farm Animals Shines New Light on Traditional Religious Ceremony

At noon on September 15, 2007, a special public ceremony will be held in Poolesville, Maryland to honor the

feast day of St. Francis of Assisi and World Animal Day. The event will draw attention to the plight of farm animals which are the most abused animals in the United States. The ceremony at Poplar Spring Animal Sanctuary (15200 Mt. Nebo Road, Poolesville, MD 20837) will focus on the importance of our compassionate treatment of farm animals and their sacred place in God's creation. The Poolesville United Memorial Methodist Church joins with the Humane Society of the United States in this special day.

Presiding over the ceremony will be: Pastor Ken Fell of Poolesville Memorial United Methodist Church, Wayne Pacelle, president and CEO of the Humane Society of the United States, and Christine Gutleben, Director, Animals and Religion Program of the Humane Society of the United States.

Poplar Spring Animal Sanctuary is a four-hundred-acre non-profit refuge for farm animals and wildlife. The sanctuary cares for, rehabilitates, and provides permanent sanctuary for neglected, abandoned, or unwanted farm animals. The refuge also provides protected habitat for wildlife. Each year, more than nine billion animals are raised and killed for meat,

eggs, and milk in the United States. Farm animals are sentient, complex, and unique individuals. They are as capable of feeling and expressing emotions as the dogs and cats we welcome into our families; however, industrialized agribusiness treats farm animals merely as meat-, egg-, and milk-producing machines, instead of the living, sensitive beings they are. Just like those animals we consider to be our companions or those in the wild, these animals deserve our respect and compassion. Celebrate Gaithersburg in Olde Towne

Gaithersburg's popular street festival is back for its twenty-sixth year. A several-block area around the intersection of Summit and Diamond Avenues will be closed to traffic as the entire community comes out for a day of music, food, arts, crafts, amusements, and much more. It all happens on Sunday, September 16 from noon to 5:00 p.m.

Five stages of live entertainment showcase a wide range of musical styles, headlined by Sister Hazel. Pat McGee and Friends kick off the entertainment on Stage I, the City Hall Concert Pavilion, at 1:00 p.m., followed by platinum and gold album recording artists Sister Hazel, taking the stage at 2:45 p.m.

Youngsters are in for a special treat with interactive theatre, games, demonstrations, and amusements. Little ones will enjoy wandering through Bubble Island or trying their skills on the Forest Oak Boy Scouts rope bridge. Creativity comes alive at the Middle Earth Studios with costumed storytelling and creative dramas. Explore the natural world in the Discovery Creek Rolling Rainforest. Have your picture taken with Smokey the Bear at the Firehouse Museum, be in your own safety video with KinderVision, and visit Operation Lifesaver at the Community Museum to learn about safe railroad crossing.

Back to Music

Here's a tip from Jim Brown's newsletter. The Poolesville Youth Symphony Orchestra is looking for youth musicians (fourth grade and above and no experience needed) who are interested in joining their program. The program is sponsored by the Poolesville High School PTSA and the Cameron Music Benefit Fund (in partnership with the Poolesville-area cluster schools). The PYSO presents a great opportunity for kids to learn to play and experience classical music

-Continued on Page 25.

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"Commissioners Approve Deed Change" Continued from Page 1.

and would have beautification design and landscaping to improve the overall appearance of that intersection.

The Kettler Forlines plan was developed over the last two and half years through meetings with the Poolesville planning board, state and county highway departments, and other state government concerns which include rural roads and road beautification committees. The planning commission approved the Kettler Forlines plan only after both state and county regulatory organizations approved and certified it as being safe and up to government standards.

The plan will now move forward as specified unless the planning board, in its meetings with the citizens who voiced concern on September 4, decides upon a reassessment prior to approval.

Mrs. Stypeck's concern was about traffic moving south on Route 109 toward Poolesville and the potential hazard of drivers making a left turn into the entrance to Brightwell Crossing, the new development. Since the road in that direction takes a right curve in front of Elijah United Methodist Church, drivers moving too fast will not allow enough braking space should the road become blocked by a car trying to turn there. The planning commission is tasked to review her concerns and to provide their recommendation.

As regards the changes to the entrance to the Elgin Road spur, Cal Sneed and Bob Beckmann, residents who live near the intersection, made a proposal to change the Kettler Forlines plan using a traffic circle. With their proposal, they submitted a rendering of the new design, which locates the traffic circle area in front of the church. They voiced the opinion that the change would improve safety by forcing a reduction in speed on Route 109, add to the landscape appearance of the site, allow the Elgin Road spur to remain two-way, and provide additional security for the planned park by opening up visibility to the park from the main road.

Their plan was submitted in the last week of August after the planning board had approved the Kettler Forlines plan. Tom Kettler, of Kettler Forlines, while not actually being able to review the rendering before the afternoon of the meeting, did not raise any objections to the planning board reviewing the plan but reported that their engineers, in the limited time

they used to review the traffic circle plan, believed that the traffic circle as rendered would need to be at least thirty percent larger than what appeared in the map provided by Mr. Sneed. They also raised the concern that the traffic circle would not work for large farming equipment. Mr. Kuhlman also questioned whether large tractor trailers would operate within the circle's limitations as presented. Finally, it was pointed out that the traffic circle concept must be level, and to accomplish that, extensive excavation could also further impinge on privately-owned property encompassing the area.

The Kettler Forlines proposal involves changes to that part of Elgin Road which leads to Jerusalem Road. It is at the point where Route 109 curves to the left heading north. The Kettler Forlines plan would provide drivers using the road access to Jerusalem Road on a new turn-off lane so as to not block traffic heading north. It also would be moved north a bit providing a safer and gentler entrance as compared to the current rapid, drop-off. Since the end of the road would be closed to Poolesville-bound drivers, it would eliminate the current challenging situation.

To the right of the entrance to the Elgin Road spur, a proposed landscaping project has been presented that will beautify the area and include berms, shrubs, and an improved sign welcoming people to Poolesville. The Elgin Road spur would not allow through traffic from Jerusalem Road to Route 109. While it will be two-way traffic for those using the planned park, the road would end in a circle that would bring them back to Jerusalem Road. The circular ending was incorporated to allow snowplows to clear the road and still be able to return.

After more than two and half years of study and submission of many plans, the current plan has been conceptually approved by both the state and the county and has also passed their safety regulations.

There remains much public concern as to increased traffic coming from Jerusalem Road turning left toward Poolesville. The incline north at that intersection coupled with the positioning of fencing and trees that obscure the view of oncoming traffic can provide a safety issue for drivers not taking the proper care, especially if oncoming cars on not following the speed limit. Also, for those heading

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Photographs by Jon Amoit

north on Route 109 from Poolesville, and trying to turn right onto Jerusalem Road, the turn seems to cause larger vehicles, especially those with trailers, to take a wide turn placing them in the oncoming lane. While the state approved the design based on their safety regulations, area residents are concerned for those drivers coming from Beallsville who are not obeying the speed limits. This is a concern even under the present situation.

For further safety, alteration of the Jerusalem Road/Route 109 intersection requires the cooperation of private property owners surrounding

the area. Other choices to improve the safety of the roadway from Jerusalem Road to the entrance of Brightwell Crossing have been voiced. They include: lower speed limits coming into Poolesville on Route 109 coupled with increased camera surveillance and flashing yellow road signs announcing the reduction in speed. Additionally, road strips that cause a minor vibration just prior to the change in speed limits and the use of the portable speed-limit signs that record the rate of speed of oncoming traffic which flashes when the driver is going too fast were also brought up.

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Police Blotter

By Jack Toomey

Present

The hours of daylight are decreasing, and the Montgomery County police have some tips for deterring burglars. If you are going out for the evening, turn on a few lights or a radio so it looks and sounds like someone is at home. Be extra cautious about locking doors and windows when you leave. August 21 Residential burglary – 20900 block of Old Hundred Road. Forced entry to a home, property taken

September 5 Vandalism, theft. Frederick County deputies arrested Alfred J. Hardiman, 19, of Wellington Terrace, after witnesses saw him shooting out the windows of parked cars and stealing items from the cars near Ballenger Creek Pike. Four schools in the Adamstown area were locked down during the search for Hardiman who was charged with several counts of theft and destruction of property.

Past

September 15, 1907 Deputy Sheriff Collins went to the home of Ernest Jenkins at Glen Echo to place him under arrest for beating his wife. Instead of a warm greeting, Collins was met with a fusillade of bullets fired by Jenkins. Collins returned the fire and ran out of ammunition and then had to go for reinforcements.

September 16, 1942 Frank and Jesse Dickinson filed suit in Montgomery County court in an attempt to recover \$6750 from the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. They alleged that a passing train set fire to brush which spread to their store and house which was near the Barnesville station.

September 17, 1933 Montgomery police were searching for a Boyds man who assaulted Officer Gassaway Linthicum and took his gun. Officer Linthicum had gone to the house of the suspect to serve a peace order when the man struck him over the head, took his pistol, and ran into the woods.

September 24, 1942 Fourteen people were killed and scores injured in the wreck of two passenger trains at Dickerson. One passenger train had stalled on the hill west of the Dickerson station when it was struck in the rear by another passenger train. All of the dead were passengers in the last car of the first train.

September 24, 1917 Two Washington men were taken into custody after being found sleeping in a shack with dynamite in the area of the Washington Aqueduct below Great Falls. It was initially feared that there was a plot to blow up the aqueduct that supplied water to Washington, but it was then learned that the men were simply sleeping in a shack near a gold mine where dynamite was frequently used.

October 1, 1955 The Peter Pan Inn at Urbana was heavily damaged by a fire that started in the attic and destroyed the roof.

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J.D. Kuhlman

Youth Sports

Coyotes Gear Up for Fall Sports Season

By Jeff Stuart

Blending players from three high schools and four middle schools into a cohesive unit, the Clarksburg High School football team won three games in 2006, more than any first-year school in the modern history of MCPS. That set a precedent—but there is little time to reflect on that success. “We are looking forward to the 2007 season,” says Head Coach Larry Hurd, Jr. “We have everyone coming back [twenty-two starters and thirty-eight lettermen] from last year, and that is a plus. We should be a much more experienced team. The only part of that is that we will still be a team with mostly juniors and sophomores which makes us a very young team. We hope to give ourselves a chance to win as many games as possible and make a run at the 2A playoffs.” The returning starters are led by junior defensive tackle Rob Osbourne. Over eighty players are attending every workout. They are bigger, faster, and stronger. Expecting

to make an impact are running backs Derrick Morgan and Avery Graham, both linebackers on the defensive side, and James Pleasant who doubles as a defensive back. Playing on both the offensive and defensive lines, Marcus Kinney and Robert Thompson are also keys to Coyotes success. Assistant coaches are: Will Gant, Larry Hurd, Sr., Curtiss Belcher, Mat Derrick, John Nash, and Josh Munsey.

The boys’ soccer team is looking to improve upon a successful first year. They went 4-8, losing to Middletown in the first round of the playoffs. “Having not graduated any players, the team should be strong in the new 3A/2A/1A Montgomery County Division,” says Head Coach Jeremy Spoales. “Returning seniors, Michael Virga and Justin Kenel, will lead the defense while juniors, Peabo Doue and Dillon Muise, will man the attack. Add in Bullis transfer Julio Arjona, and the Coyotes will be hoping for big things.”

The Clarksburg girls’ soccer team is looking to build on a successful first season as well. “We are going to go out and play hard in every game, giving ourselves the chance to be successful any time we step onto the field,” said Coach Troy Bowers. “We are looking to make a further push

into the 2A playoffs this year as well.” Captain Ashley Layton will lead the Coyotes.

The girls’ field hockey team also has more experience, but it is still young.

“Everyone will be returning from last year’s inaugural 1-12 season,” said Head Coach Sissy Natoli. “My team was led mostly by freshmen and sophomores. Leading the Coyote pack this year will be my returning junior captains: Samantha Amberg, Jenna Smith, Delaney Tenca, and Kritishma Stretha. Adding strength and experience to our defense will be my returning senior goalie Alyssa Roff, in addition to a strong nucleus of returning starters, Briana Moylan, Susan Wu, and Allison Saglio. We are looking forward to an exciting season, and our goal is to be competitive in every game as we strive to improve on last year’s record and advance further into the 2A State Playoffs.”

The girls’ volleyball team is going to be working hard, also looking to improve. “We will be looking to our seniors, Lena Kem and Jen Nguyen, to lead us again this year,” says Head Coach Terri Tippett. “Taylor Randall has worked hard to improve her setting through her dedication to camps

and workouts. Cynthia Alfaro has also worked hard to improve her strength and stamina this summer, as well. Both were JV players last year and look to move up to varsity this year.” They begin their season Sept. 18, 3:30 pm. at home against Churchill.

The Clarksburg girls’ tennis team is looking to dominate their division this season. Returning number one singles seed Khanita Suvarnasuddhi is “stronger than ever and looking to be a competitive force around the county,” says Coach Lauren McCabe-Dommel. “Seniors Abigail Richards and Clara Salcedo’s leadership and tennis skills will guide the team to the county playoffs.”

Last year Coach Nick Caretti’s girls’ cross country team, led by sophomore Alexandra Miles, won the division IV title, edging out Northwood as well as Seneca Valley, Kennedy, Rockville, and Blake. There were only six other girls on the squad in addition to Miles. They were Jennifer Grimaudo, Kelsey Smith, Paige Harris, Brenna Metz, Rachel Rubenstein, and Courtney Clark. The boys’ team includes Ramon Munoz, Michael Leaman, Robbie Wong, Phillip Cruz, James Thomas, Dzung Wu, and Reagan O’Leary. Caretti’s team

-Continued on Page 21.

“Allie Taylor” Continued From Page 1.

violin—maybe she was born with a violin in her hands, under the sign of the treble clef. In reality, she began playing when she was two or three, taught by her mother, a violinist and violin teacher of the Suzuki method (where one learns to play by ear first). With such a beginning, it should be no surprise that the violin and music are now a thorough and complete part of her life.

After beginning life in New Hampshire, Allie moved with her family to Germantown, Maryland when she was eight. From the ages of eight to ten, Allie played for the Potomac Valley Youth Orchestra, then she began playing for the Academy of St. Cecilia Youth Orchestra. She was among the two remaining musicians who were with the orchestra when it was first founded, and she also remembers the very first rehearsal: on the day of 9/11. St. Cecilia’s Youth Orchestra rehearses out of Damascus United Methodist Church and was founded and directed by the musical director there, Walt Edmonds. Allie says it’s an orchestra that believes that

everyone should have the opportunity to play music. “It’s a really good experience to get together and make music,” she says.

During her middle school years, Allie drifted away from her violin studies a little bit. Her mother taught her until she was eleven, then they had “a clash of wills.” In the end, Allie admits that her mother was always right, and she doesn’t hesitate in the least in naming her mother her “number one biggest fan.” At thirteen, she began lessons with Phyllis Freeman, the principal violist for the Maryland Symphony Orchestra who also plays the violin. It was at this time that she became more serious and focused on her violin studies and experiences. Allie began playing in a chamber group, the Emmanuel String Quartet with other talented musicians of her age. They have played at weddings, parties, and the like, and, even though college will be a busy time, they will continue to perform when they can. She did a few competitions with success, but she didn’t like them. She found the emphasis was either on the judges (if she was very nervous) or on her (as a competitor) and not on the music. She says, “The performer is not



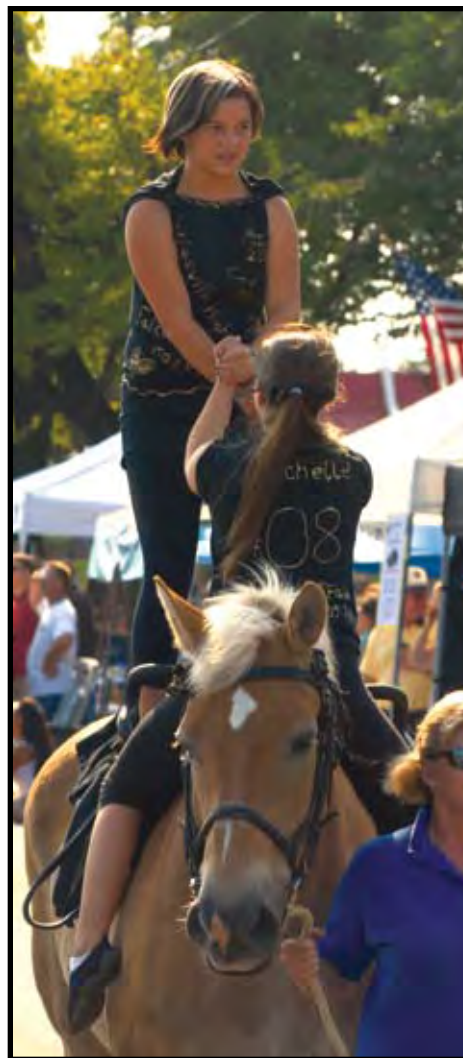
Allie Taylor

a performer, the performer is like a conduit.” She prefers to be such a conduit and that the music flow through her. “If the music speaks, then I’m doing my job,” she adds. While continuing with St. Cecilia’s, Allie also played with the Peabody Sinfonietta in Baltimore during her sophomore and junior years of high school, where “everyone was like me” in that the orchestra came first.

Allie will be attending DePauw University in Indiana, her parents’

alma mater, on a full scholarship. DePauw University has a strong music program, but just as important to Allie, DePauw is known for its academics, and Allie is considering a double major—to her, “It’s important to be well-rounded.” She also wants to be well-traveled. “I know I want to see the whole world,” she says, adding, “I know I want to play the violin, I know I want to travel, and I know I want to perform because I love it.”

Poolesville Day 2007





Remembrance Sgt. Scott L. Kirkpatrick – Warrior Poet

Sgt. Scott Kirkpatrick of Reston, Virginia was killed in action during an ambush in Iraq, on Saturday, August 11, 2007. After a sniper attack, Sergeant Kirkpatrick, assigned to 1st Battalion, 30th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, Fort Stewart, Georgia died of wounds sustained from an improvised explosive device during combat operations in Arab Jabour, Iraq. Following a sniper attack, Sergeant Kirkpatrick, along with three other soldiers, pursued the attacker into a house, which had been booby-trapped with an improvised explosive device (IED). One of the soldiers stepped on a pressure switch detonator, and the device exploded, killing all four instantly.

This stark news report provides information about Sergeant Kirkpatrick's heroism and his death, but it says nothing about his life, his family, and the many friends who loved him. We thought you would want to know.



Sergeant Scott Kirkpatrick, July 7, 2007—Patrol Base Falcon, Iraq.

When Ed and Marti Kirkpatrick moved into their new home in Dickerson about three years ago, their labor of love in designing and building their beautiful home almost turned out exactly as their plans envisioned. All they knew was that upon Ed's retirement from AT&T, they had cornered a little bit of paradise in the Ag Reserve that symbolically brought them and their youngest son, Kevin, home again to the area where the family has deep roots over many generations of family history.

They were married at Ed's grandparents' farm, Inverness, on Route 28, Dickerson, thirty-four years ago in 1973, and their first son, Scott, was born in Washington, D.C. on November 11, 1980. For Scott, pursuing his interest in the arts, particularly acting and writing poetry, was his natural calling—it was who he was. With his mom, Marti, an accomplished artist, and his dad, Ed, a skilled photographer and website designer, Scott was truly a chip off the old block. Scott's brother, Kevin, studies and works in the theater arts as well.

Scott's great passion was poetry—slam poetry, to be specific. Slam poetry is original work, spoken and performed by the poet. It is "streetwise" and can be irreverent, humorous, angry, and controversial. Through his natural acting abilities, his poetry readings (performances) were delivered with strength far greater than simple reading. In 2000, Scott's talent was recognized when he won the District of Columbia Slam Poetry Championship and subsequently went on a national tour with other winners from the various states.

From high school plays to his performances with the Elden Street Players/Industrial Strength Theater in Herndon, Virginia, Scott established himself as a young man with promising talent, so much so that New York University had hoped to recruit Scott, but, instead, Scott chose to go to Northern Virginia Community College focusing on creative writing and political science. A prolific writer, he rarely was seen without his notebook and pen in hand. For a while, Scott successfully pursued a career with MusicMaker.com, a company that pre-dates iTunes and specialized in making personal CDs customized to the clients' wishes.

For Scott, September 11, 2001, in a sense, was the day the music died. Just over two years later, this poet-actor stunned his family by joining the army. For the very few among us who make that heroic decision, the motivation is deeply personal and varies from person to person. Was it the passionate artist in him that brought a new passion to bring new purpose to his life? Was it his long line of military family history of duty and honor? The Kirkpatrick family tree includes five West Point graduates, two of which became generals. His great uncles included Col. Lawrence "Biff" Jones (who also went on to coach the West Point and Nebraska football teams), Biff's brother, Maj. Gen. Herbert Jones, and Biff's son, Lt. Gen. Lawrence Jones, Jr. That family history also includes cousins Col. Ronan C. Grady and Lt. Col. James Foeshe, Jr. While friends and fam-

ily struggled to understand his choice, for Scott the attack of September 11 weighed heavily, and two and half years later this poet made a fateful decision: he was to become a warrior.

His leadership abilities were recognized early on by the army. His drill sergeant quickly nicknamed him "Brain" in recognition of his obvious intellectual strengths. After acing the Sergeant's Exam, his promotion to sergeant came far quicker than the standard timeline for such advancement, his personality and communication abilities quickly marking him as a leader of men and women.

On leave between boot camp in 2004 and his first deployment, Scott came home to marry Christy Blasingame, his girlfriend of nearly five years and the love of his life. Upon announcing the engagement, the couple wed within five days of the announcement. They moved to Savannah, Georgia where they bought a home and began life as a young couple. The day he deployed for his second tour in Iraq was Christy's birthday. More recently, Scott and Christy shared a dream of moving to Austin, Texas so that he could finish his education and teach history.

The Kirkpatrick family has been overwhelmed by the expressions of condolences that have poured in since the word of Scott's death hit the news. At Arlington National Cemetery, where Scott was posthumously awarded the Bronze Star and Purple Heart medals, over 350 people came to salute and grieve. According to cemetery officials, it was one of the largest funerals they have had. Scott's online guestbook filled with over 275 notes of condolence and over 9000 visitors. While hearing from so many people including Gov. Martin O'Malley, Senators Barbara Mikulski, Benjamin Cardin, and John Warner, and Congressman Chris Van Hollen and others, Mr. Kirkpatrick voiced surprise in not yet hearing from the White House. The White House informed the *Monocle* that a letter from the president went to Sergeant Kirkpatrick's widow, Christy Kirkpatrick.

For those of us in the area who did not have the chance and privilege to get to know Scott in life, visiting www.edkirkpatrick.com/scott will give you a chance to read some of his poetry. From there you will also find links to various news stories and an NPR tribute by Jack Zahora on "All Things Considered." You will also have the opportunity to hear Scott perform his poetry reading.

-Continued on Page 27.



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Tributes

The Men of the 8:30 Club at McDonalds

By Rande Davis

In your rush to grab breakfast at McDonald's in Poolesville, you may have noticed a group of senior gentlemen having coffee back in the corner. To the casual observer, their presence may not make much of an impact. Perhaps if you go often enough, you may at some point come to wonder who they are and why they are there day after day. In all likelihood, if you give it any thought at all, you would have concluded that their presence is of no importance to you, but your conclusion would be wrong.

Every morning at 8:30, the men start arriving to have coffee. On some days, they number just a few, sometimes more. Some of them come almost every morning, others only occasionally, and if all showed up at one time, the group could be as large as twenty. Who they are matters a great deal because they are a fair representation of the people responsible over the past five or six decades for making



Bill Bliss, Ed Williams, Charlie Fox (pouring coffee), Bill Poole, Spencer Smith, Jack Yates, Junior Turner, Russell West, and George Hillard.

Poolesville what it is today.

They are a cross-section of the community ranging from farmers to teachers, from government workers to entrepreneurs. Some were plumbers or machinists while one was an orthopedic surgeon, another a chemist. Some were leaders in civic groups like the Monocacy Lions or Odd Fellows while others were key leaders in the volunteer fire department. They were the coaches long before there was a PAA or UMAC. If it were possible for

one generation to reach back to shake the hand with the past, these are the hands that would be reaching out to meet yours. Who they are matters because without them we would not be the same. Their contribution is not measured so much by the degree of the power that they may have had but through the power of their modeling a way of life centered on hard work, dedi-

cation to family, and concern for their neighbors.

What they share most is their lifelong commitment to the area. They are the men of the 8:30 Club at McDonald's.

Most are retired from work, but none are retired from life. Just as they modeled a way of life through their years of working, they now model something even more important: the importance of friendship. If you ask them, they just gather briefly to chew

the fat, throw some bull, and engage in jovial ribbing. If you ask me, they do much more than that. Sure they share the vegetables from their gardens, help each other in times of need, and celebrate birthdays. They even pool weekly lottery tickets that once earned them \$500.00, but what they really do is establish a touchstone that gives value to the genuineness of their lives. They don't brag of their accomplishments because they don't have to—they are among others who know what they did.

The roots of this group go back decades to a time when they met at Titus's Tasty Cupboard for good coffee and Betty Watkins's pies. They have been meeting since 1991 at McDonald's. The owner of the business, Brian Kleghorn, generously hosts their morning conclave by only charging thirty-one cents for coffee. They joke of rebellion when the price increased from twenty-seven cents, but all kidding aside, they really appreciate the ownership and staff and the hospitality they are given.

Their conversations range from trivial matters of the day to heavy debate on the politics of our times. They

-Continued on Page 22.



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Youth Sports Poolesville High Fall Sports

By Jack Toomey

On a recent weekday afternoon, the sports complex, more commonly known as the Poolesville High School practice field, was chock full of young athletes getting ready for the 2007 fall season. On the far end of the complex,

the field hockey team was practicing their skills, the football team was busy going through their plays, and the cross country team was in the stadium warming up. At the other end of the field, the soccer teams were practicing, and the cheerleaders and poms were going through their routines. Inside the gym, the girls' volleyball team was warming up.

The boys' soccer team is coached by Christos Nicholas. He is counting on Mark Fales, Ryan Campbell, Zachary Hannon, Joseph McHale, and a host of other experienced players. Nicholas said, "The guys have been

together for a long time, every player contributes very well." Girls' soccer is coached by Christina Mann and has been featured in a previous edition of the *Monocle*. The football team returns from a rebuilding year. Coach Steve Orsini pointed out quarterback Nick Loftus, and running backs Tommy Hughes, Jonathan Gray, and Pat Zapata, as promising offensive threats. He also is counting on defensive specialists Joe Miller and Zack Etheridge. Orsini said, "The kids have worked very hard for most of the off-season, and our attitude is positive. My outlook and expectations are very high for this team. They have a year of varsity experience, and there are no excuses. When they take the field, they will be

prepared, and it is up to them to produce the way they are capable."

The golf team is unique because four girls are participating in a high school sport that has been historically all-male. Claire Jones, Blaine Martin, Liz Hanrahan, and Victoria Huang will be playing in four separate matches in addition to the district competition. Coach Jon Rogers said that three male players are expected to lead the team. Preet Mandavia, Robert Brooks, and James Walker are all returning veterans. Rogers commented, "Practice has gone well, all of the returning players have improved

-Continued on Page 26.



Faith Clauser, Jennifer Fink, and PHS Soccer Coach Christina Mann go over strategies for the upcoming season.

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Tidbits

Library Gives Thanks for All They Do

The Poolesville Library staff honored the Library Advisory Committee (LAC) and other individuals on Monday, September 10 at 7:00 p.m.

The Poolesville Library is a wonderful resource for the community, and patrons appreciate the professionalism of the staff with their friendliness and courtesy. If you ask the staff, however, they would want you to know that the contribution of community volunteers makes all the difference in the world. Then again, you do not have to ask them because they have chosen to let you know regardless by honoring the Library Advisory Committee (LAC) on Monday, September 10, 2007. The members of the LAC donate many hours of personal time throughout the year in supporting the library. They attend monthly meetings, make decisions about program choices and are library advocates to the community, and lobby to the county government. The Poolesville Day book sale involves multiple hours of work before, during, and after to prepare, sell, and clean up. This past year's committee

consisted of Ralph Hitchens, Chair, Barb Ebbert, Secretary, Maggie Nightingale, Pat Scace, Lynne Rolls, Holly Larisch, and Library Board Liaison, Bob Lyford.

In addition, Allan Stypeck from Second Story Books, Sharon Anthony of Montgomery College, and Joel and Gayl Tjornehoj, local residents, were recognized for their contributions to the Poolesville Library and the community. Other volunteers recognized were Harry Grant, Patricia Marshall, Timothy Friedman, Sally June Kuka, Martha DeGraff, and Laura Bauer, individuals who assist throughout the year with various tasks in the library working behind the scenes.

Ollie, Ollie, Home Free

Hide and seek is a great game for kids, but when the fire department or emergency medical technician needs to find you and can't, the game is over—sometimes, tragically, for good.

For homes everywhere, but especially those in the more rural areas without clear and highly-visible signage showing the street number, it is a tragedy waiting to happen. Now, the Upper Montgomery County Volunteer Fire Department wants to do something about it, and they want to help you come out from hiding. The

UMCVFD is assembling and distributing, at cost, reflective address signs. For those with driveways longer than eight hundred feet from the building to the street, the sign will include a smaller reflective number indicating the number of one-hundred-foot sections of hose they would have to "lay out" to get water to your home in the event of fire. The 6" x 19" vertical reflective signs are blue with white numbers. It can take up to six weeks to deliver the sign, so don't delay any more. Besides, as the firefighters tell us, at least the pizza guy can get to you while the pizza is still hot. For details, contact the UMCVFD at 301-972-8888.

School Rules!

Sarah Defnet of the JPMS Newsletter wants you to know that JPMS definitely rules, but perhaps your middle school student came home in the first few days and mentioned that they participated in discussions to help establish student rules during the first few days of school. Have you heard the term "Baldrige" mentioned but weren't sure exactly how that translated to practice in our school? Baldrige is a series of quality controls and tools, and one of its premises includes participation by all the

stakeholders. Stakeholders, you say? Yep, that includes all of us: parents, students, teachers, staff, and administration—all of us. The students are stakeholders in their own success, and as such will participate more in setting goals and expectations for themselves, and as they experienced this week, participating in creating rules and guidelines for themselves. Having students participate in group discussions during connect time (similar to homeroom only not at the beginning of the day or necessarily every day) to brainstorm rules is one of the ways the school is involving students in creating and buying into the expectations that are set.

It's in the Numbers

Frederick County public high school students earned higher mean scores on the challenging college-level Advanced Placement exams in 2006-07 than the previous year. The percentage of scores at or above three also increased to 60.2 from 58.1 last year. Many colleges and universities award college credit for exam scores of three or higher.

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**"Fall Sports CHS" Continued
From Page 13.**

will move up to the more competitive division III this fall. They will face Damascus, Paint Branch, Watkins Mill, Springbrook, Poolesville, Einstein, and Wheaton.

The Clarksburg boys' and girls' golf teams will once again play in the MCPS Kyle Division. Their opening meet with Northwood, Kennedy, and Springbrook at Northwest Park Golf Course was on Monday, September 9. Blair, Einstein, Richard Montgomery, Paint Branch, and Wheaton are also in the Kyle Division.

Gearing up in support of the entire fall sports schedule, the ju-

nior varsity and varsity cheerleaders attended camp at the University of Maryland Baltimore Campus, July 23 to July 29, winning trophies and ribbons. The varsity squad earned the Spirit Award for being the most spirited team at camp (voted on by the entire camp). The entire squad was nominated for National Cheerleader Association's All American Cheerleader Award. Briani Claggett won the camp's individual All-American Cheerleader title and the opportunity to perform on national television at the Fed Ex Orange Bowl in Miami. "It was very exciting. We had so much fun," says cheerleading coach Edy Pratt. "We look forward to an exciting winning season with lots of spirit and

**"Lord's Acre" Continued From
Page 6.**

home-baked pies, cakes, cookies, and candies, or take your chances at winning a cake during one of the cake-walks. You can also dive into a pie during the pie-eating contest.

And don't leave your appetite at home. Be sure to check out the luncheon—homemade soups, salads, and desserts—served from 11:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. For those wanting a lighter

fare, enjoy walking tacos and other quick food items at the outdoor food stand. Join your friends and neighbors at Memorial Methodist on September 22. Proceeds from the event help to support the operations and programs of the church, including many community-related activities.

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"No Job Is Too Large or Too Small"

**"The Men of the 8:30 Club"
Continued From Page 17.**

have no formal structure. Even the name of the group could not be more unassuming, more pragmatic. There is no leadership, but there is hierarchy. Those who have been coming the longest or those who come most often are appreciated a bit more. The youngest or earliest member draws the duty of pouring coffee. When someone empties his coffee cup and wants more, no spoken orders have to be given. They light-heartedly begin to tap the cup on the table and the junior member knows enough to get a pot of regular and one of decaf and to fill the cups.

What appears to be their daily coffee break is really much more than that. It is a time-honored ritual. It's a throwback to the time when such men shared coffee around the potbelly stove in the general store. You can find such groups in places all over the world. While others rush through the drive-in window furiously heading out to work, these men have reached a milestone in life that values the role of stopping long enough to listen to one another. They demonstrate caring not so much by deeds but simply by being

there. The next time you are in McDonald's, give the gentlemen a nod. While they played a big part in our past, they are also an important part of our future because they are still the ones who do so much volunteering and without ever speaking a word to us, they are telling us something very profound: learn to value long life, good health, and true friendship. Oh yeah, and one more thing they teach us: how to laugh. Spend a few minutes chatting with them and you leave for the day with a smile on your face—not a bad way to start everyday.

I have avoided referring to any individuals by name because none would want to draw attention to himself. For those who are interested, the 8:30 Club members are Bob Shultz, Junior Turner, George Hillard, Bill Bliss, Bill Poole, Russell West, Herb White, Jack Shawver, Jay McRoberts, Ed Williams, Spencer Smith, Charlie Glass, Bob Nicholson, Jim Sporey, John Donaldson (the most senior member), Jack Yates, Jim Barrack, and Bill Kautz. Oh, I don't want to forget the youngster who gets to pour all the coffee: Charlie Fox.

Remembrance

Janet Reed: Former Potomac Hunt Club Member Passes Away

Janet Reed, a popular member of the Potomac Hunt Club in the late 1980s and 1990s, passed away this past July. At the time of her death, she resided in California.

She joined the Potomac Hunt in 1973 and relished everything about it from the early morning hunts to the entire social scene surrounding Potomac. She also gave freely of her time throughout the early 1970s to raise funds for the United States Equestrian Team.

After a tragic fall from a horse in 1977 left her a paraplegic, she worked tirelessly for years to help raise funds and awareness for spinal cord injuries. In the early 1980s, she created a workout program for the wheelchair-bound called "Wheelchair Workout" and for a time ran the publicity circuit to promote and distribute the exercise program to private homes and rehabilitation facilities around the country.

Mrs. Reed began her lifelong passion for horses and horseback riding at age eleven. It wasn't until the late 1960s with three young children under foot that she decided to spend as much free time as possible indulging in this passion. Weekends were spent at Rock Creek Stables with her equine friends. She managed to impart her love of riding and the outdoors to two of her three children.

After she moved to California in the late 1990s to be near her family, she became active in her community, hosting opera parties and keeping as busy as she could indulging in her



Janet Reed.

hobbies. She loved opera, classical music, and Impressionist art. She was an avid reader but, most of all, loved writing poetry and making her own special occasion cards for her friends and family. Her family and grandchildren were her pride and joy.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made in Janet's name to: Spinal Cord Society Attn: Charles E. Carson, 19051 County Hwy 1, Fergus Falls, MN 56537-7609.

Mrs. Reed is survived by daughter and son-in-law Lauren Reed McGuire (Paul McGuire) of Canyon Country; daughter and son-in-law Rebecca Ann Reed (John Levy) of Newhall; and grandchildren Jeff, Jessica, and Rachael Odle of Canyon Country and Michelle and Allison Muldoon of Newhall.

She was preceded in death by son Irwin Randall Reed (Randy) at age twenty-five in 1986..

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**"Book Corner" Continued From
Page 9.**

My high school friends in New York City have begun to suspect that I have not told them the full story of my life.

"Why did you leave Sierra Leone?"

"Because there is a war."

"Did you witness some of the fighting?"

"Everyone in the country did."

"You mean you saw people running around with guns and shooting each other?"

"Yes, all the time."

"Cool."

I smile a little.

"You should tell us about it some time."

"Yes, some time."

In *A Long Way Gone*, Ishmael Beah beautifully and hauntingly tells us about that time. In today's violent world, children are becoming the soldiers of choice. Taken from their families by force, they are trained to become killers, armed with AK-47s, machetes, and suicide bombs. Ishmael Beah used to be one of them. For some, this might be a difficult book to read, but it is happening every day in countries from Africa to Afghanistan to Iraq. Our newspapers and wire services recount

stories, told by journalists, of what war is like, but in Beah's book, we get a first-person account from someone who came through that hell and survived. Now twenty-five years old, he tells a powerful and riveting story. At age twelve, after his family is savagely murdered by marauding rebels, he is picked up by the government army to join in the fight against the rebels. At heart a gentle boy, he is amazed and frightened to find that he is capable of truly terrible acts. In one passage in the book, the government army lieutenant is lecturing these boy soldiers about why they must kill the rebels. In speaking of the rebels, he says, "They have lost everything that makes them human. They do not deserve to live. That is why we must kill every single one of them." While horrified by the actions of the rebels, the government soldiers become no better than they. They become inhuman; there is no difference.

At sixteen, Ishmael is removed from the fighting by UNICEF and brought to a rehabilitative center in the capital, Freetown, where, with the help of dedicated United Nations workers, he slowly tries to regain his sense of humanity. Many of the other boys who are there with him cannot adjust, forget, and heal. They return to the fight.

Beah moved to the United States

in 1998 and finished his last two years of high school at the United Nations International School in New York. He graduated from Oberlin College in 2004. When I read page after page of unspeakable atrocities and unbelievable brutality, I was in awe of Beah's ability to describe these unthinkable events in calm, unforgettable language. His story tears your heart asunder, and then puts it back together again. He emerged from such horror with his humanity intact. There is a lesson in his story: gentle folk can be capable of great brutalities, as well as goodness and courage.

While Beah was at the UNICEF Rehabilitation Center in Freetown, he was

invited to speak to an assembly of the United Nations countries on the issue of child soldiers. He agreed to go to New York, and he said he knew exactly what he was going to say. "I will always tell people that children have the resilience to outlive their sufferings, if given a chance."

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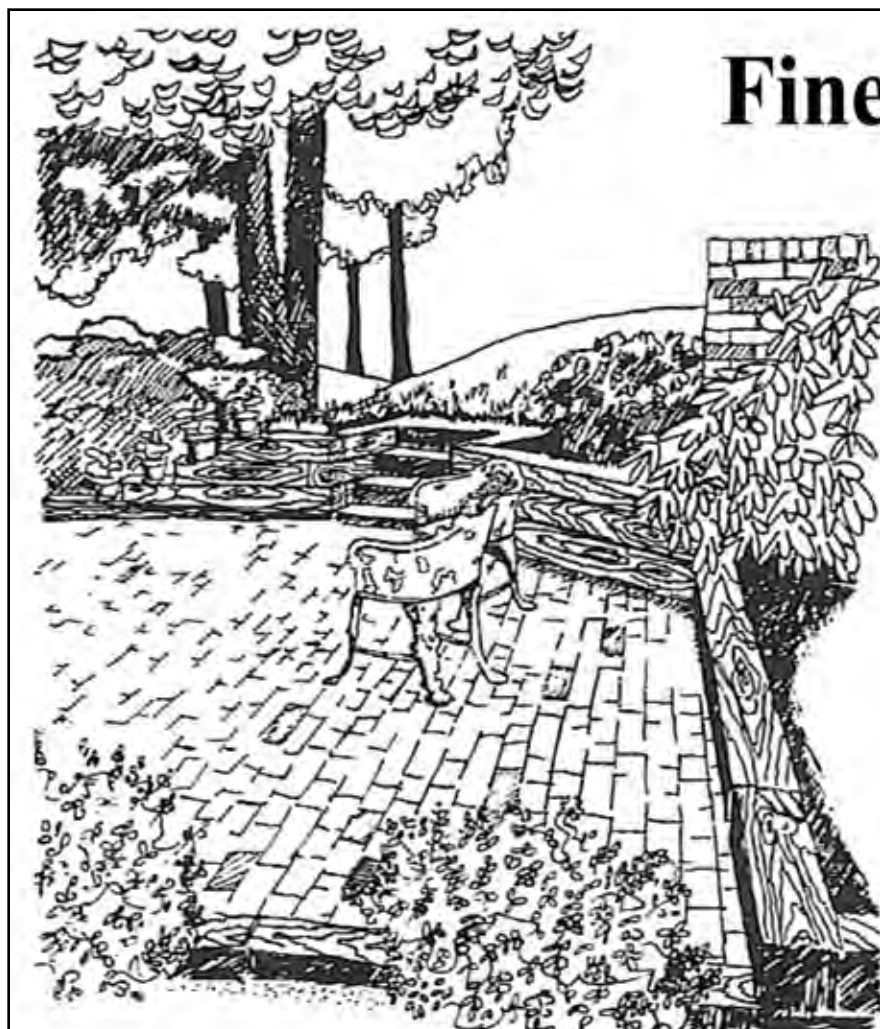
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**"Big Board" Continued From
Page 10.**

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And More Music (of the Cameron Kind)

Speaking of the Poolesville musicians, PHS grad Sandy Cameron is the featured soloist with the National Philharmonic at Strathmore Hall on September 15 at 8:00 p.m. and September 16 at 3:00 p.m.. Sandy feeds off of the support and energy her fellow Poolesvillians give her, so make the easy trip down to Strathmore to enjoy watching our "legend in the making." As with all National Philharmonic performances at Strathmore, children get in free. You can purchase tickets through the National Philharmonic at www.nationalphilharmonic.com or by calling 301-493-9283 ext. 111.

Local Artists to Display Talent at Old Town Hall

Historic Medley District, Inc. (HMD) is holding its annual art show throughout the Poolesville Day weekend and repeating it on the weekend of September 15 and 16. An important benefit to help raise funds to restore the building to its original function as the Poolesville National Bank, it will eventually become a Town and Civil War museum.

The multi-day showing begins with a special reception of the artists for the public on September 7 from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the old town hall in Poolesville. An array of area artists and photographers displaying and selling their work will be there to meet the public and art enthusiasts. There will be hor d'oeuvres and wine served. The cost per ticket for this fundraiser is \$35.00 per person. The art show will continue on Poolesville Day, September 8, and offers an opportunity to visit the iconic building as it is being restored. The \$5.00 donation will also be used to help in the restoration costs. On September 9, 15, and 16 the art show will be open from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The Great Frederick Fair Will Have Some Great Country Music Stars

Midway fans, 4-Hers, country music lovers, and those who just love a demolition derby or tractor-pull will have their passions fulfilled when the 145th Annual Great Frederick Fair opens on September 14 and runs through September 22 this year. Along

with the standard fair fare, the entertainment at the grandstand will have some highly popular headliners. Fans of Gary Allan, the Oak Ridge Boys, Rockin' Road House, Lonestar, and Joe Nichols will be delighted. For all the details, visit www.thegreatfrederickfair.com.

PACC Hosts Third Annual Pork and Pig Roast

The Poolesville Area Chamber of Commerce will hold its Third Annual Pig Roast Thursday, September 20, 2007 at 6:00 p.m. at White's Ferry Pavilion. The event is open to members of the Poolesville Area Chamber of Commerce, their guests, and prospective members. The menu features pork, fried chicken, corn, baked beans, and coleslaw. Tickets are \$25.00 per person and \$12.50 for children under eleven. The Poolesville Area Chamber of Commerce is a nonprofit organization committed to the promotion and advancement of the general welfare and prosperity of the Poolesville area, its citizens, and its business community, encompassing the upper western region of Montgomery County, Maryland including the towns of Barnesville, Beallsville, Boyds, Comus, Dawsonville, Dickerson, Jerusalem, Martinsburg, Poolesville, and Seneca and their surrounding areas.

For further information call the PACC at 301-349-5753.

Ken Burns's *The War*

In extraordinary times, there are no ordinary lives: September 20 at 7:30 p.m. at the Weinberg Center for the Arts. For more information, visit www.weinbergcenter.org or call 301-600-2828.

Monocacy Lions Golf Tournament Accepting Sponsors and Reservations Now

The Annual Monocacy Lions Golf Tournament is set for Friday, September 21 at the Poolesville Golf Course. This year's special event is a \$2,500 putting contest. Other special contests include closest to the pin on all par 3s and longest drive (men and women). Only a few years ago, the tournament had a big hole-in-one winner. Lunch is served between 11:30 a.m. and 1:00 a.m. with the driving range open during this time. There will be a beverage cart throughout the tournament. At the end of the day, there will be a barbeque chicken dinner. Corporate sponsorship, which includes fees for a foursome, is \$450.00. Teams made up of four players are \$400.00, and individual player's cost is \$100.00. Hole sponsorship is \$100.00 and for those

wanting to only attend the dinner, the cost is \$15.00. Annual Saturday Night in the Country to Benefit Scholarship Fund and WUMCO

The Rural Women's Republican Club is holding its annual "Saturday Night in the Country" on September 22 at the Izaak Walton League in Poolesville. This Up-County tradition will feature a happy hour (at 5:00 p.m.), BBQ chicken dinner (at 6:00 p.m.), and an unusual and entertaining singing auctioneer. While the event is hosted by the GOP ladies, this is not a fundraiser for political purposes. In fact, all proceeds go to funding their annual scholarship to a PHS graduate and their annual gift to WUMCO. The cost is \$35.00 per adult and \$15.00 for children five to twelve years of age. For information and reservations, call 301-972-8609. Preschool Bible Story Time

St. Peter's begins its preschool bible story time group again on September 26 at 10:00 a.m. The series will then alternate between mornings at 10:00 a.m. and afternoons at 1:00 p.m. They will start with songs that the children enjoy and then the telling of a couple Bible stories. Each session will conclude with a simple craft and a snack. The program lasts forty-five minutes. This is a fun and great way

for the children to be introduced to wonderful stories of God's love, and it provides parents with a chance to meet other parents and neighbors Everyone with youngsters is invited.

Book Study for Adults to Start

"Where do you listen for God?" Starting on Thursday, September 27, at 7:00 p.m., at St. Peter's Church, you may find yourself listing in some rather unusual places. Using the series, *Listening for God: Contemporary Literature and the Life of Faith*, an exploration of listening for God's words in contemporary literature will be the focus of this book study centering on short selections from authors like Flannery O'Connor, Raymond Carver, Annie Dillard, Alice Walker, and Richard Rodriguez. Contact Joel Tjornehoj at 301-972-8383 for more information and for a copy of the book. "Contemporary American literature may not be the most predictable place to listen for God, but it may well turn out to be among the most rewarding." Come and join us!

Note: Got a Big Board item for the Monocle? If you, your church, or group has something they want to share with our readers, be sure send the information to editor@monocacymonocle.com

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**"Top Fall Bloomers" Continued
From Page 5.**

with hostas, ferns, and other denizens of dappled shade.

There are many shrubs that bloom in late summer and fall. An under-used one is *Caryopteris*, the Blue Mist shrub. These aromatic, deciduous shrubs continuously produce flower spikes in varying shades of blue and rosy-pink from mid-summer to fall. Commonly called Bluebeards, they are heat- and drought-tolerant, fast-growing plants that need only average soil and full sun to part shade. A new variety came on the market this year—*Caryopteris incana* Sunshine blue. It sports bright gold foliage. If winter is very cold, it dies back close to the ground and then resprouts in the spring. In late August, it surprises you with multiple, rich amethyst blue flowers that last for days in a vase.

A good companion for Phlox 'David,' Rudbeckia, sedum, and ornamental grasses is *Perovskia*, 'Russian Sage.' I have two varieties in my garden: 'Filigran' and 'Little Spire.' The first one is a good back-of-the-border choice, while the second one, at two feet in height and a neat, compact habit, makes an ideal plant for the front of the border. They both

have silvery green foliage with accents of cool lavender flower spikes that bloom mid-summer to mid-fall.

Looking for a reliable, low maintenance hydrangea that will bloom from early summer to fall? A year or so ago, *Hydrangea macrophylla* Endless Summer was introduced to the garden world. This variety blooms on old and new wood, thus assuring you a long season of color. Flowers will be pink or blue, depending on your soil pH. It grows to a height of five feet and a width of four feet. The flower heads are huge, up to nine inches across. New this year is Endless Summer's sibling, Blushing Bride. It has the same dark green leaves and nine inch flowers, but earlier rebloom. Depending on the pH of your soil, the flowers age to blush or pale sky blue.

Many garden centers and catalogs sell these plants now for fall planting. But if your mind and body are looking for a break from garden chores, keep this list for next spring and consult it when you are more eager to get out your gardening tools.

**"Fall Sports PHS" Continued
From Page 18.**

quite a bit. We are a fairly inexperienced team. This year should be a great challenge and allow some of our players to get some more experience. I am also excited about having four girls [on the team], with more experience, one or two may be playing on the coed team soon." Girls' volleyball is coached by Fran Duvall who remarked, "We have played in two scrimmage tournaments, and the team is working hard and working towards consistency. Duvall is looking forward to having Annie Sekerak, Jessica Chittenden, Chelsea Glowacki, and Jenny Better provide significant contributions. Duvall added, "We expect to be playing on November 17," implying that she expects the team to reach the state finals.

The cross country team is returning after a successful 2006 season when the girls placed seventh in the state meet. Coach James Vollmer said that he is counting on Maggie Earle, Brianna Giarratano, Devin Hamberger, Kristyn Kirschbaum, Emma Taylor, and Jackie Winning to lead the girls' team. The boys' team

is in a rebuilding phase and will look to David Wilson for leadership. The coaches of the field hockey team and girls' tennis were unable to be reached for this article.

The pom squad is coached by Cathy Hoponick who said, "We had an excellent camp, the girls worked very hard getting ready for the season." The captains are Terra Swerdlow and Chelsea Chin. The cheerleaders are led by captains Morgan Fields and Kimberly Zisman. Coach Katherine Loughney said, "The girls, as a whole, are totally dedicated to cheerleading. The cheerleaders work well together [and] the camaraderie on the squad is quite strong making practices positive and productive." Coach Loughney expects the squad to be the top competitor in the county competition.

There are about 325 athletes competing in fall sports, about thirty percent of the student population. No other Montgomery County school comes close to the dedication and school spirit shown by these student athletes. They work hard and deserve the support of the community.

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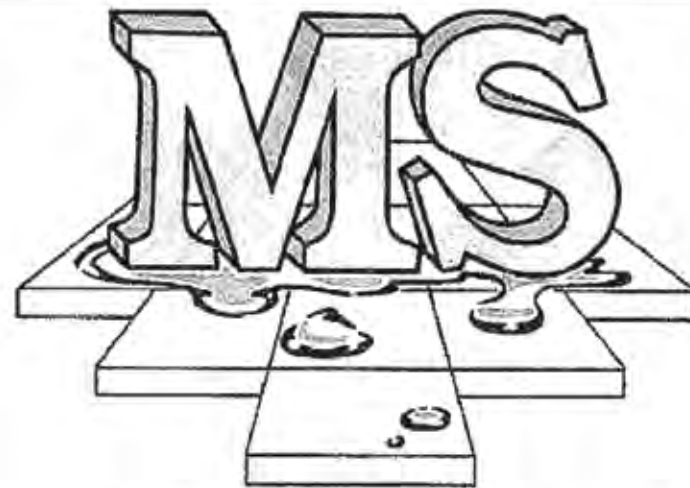
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"Kirkpatrick" Continued From Page 16.

We asked the Kirkpatricks what they might want to share with our readers. First, they would appreciate donations in Sergeant Kirkpatrick's honor to the Yellow Ribbon Fund, an organization supporting wounded military personnel at Walter Reed Army Medical Center and the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda. (The address is 7200 Wisconsin Ave., Bethesda, MD 20814 and the website is www.yellowribbonfund.org.)

Asked what people may do for them, Mrs. Kirkpatrick wanted everyone to know that when meeting a soldier or military family member how important it is "just to let them know how much you appreciate their service and that you are thinking or praying for their loved ones."

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